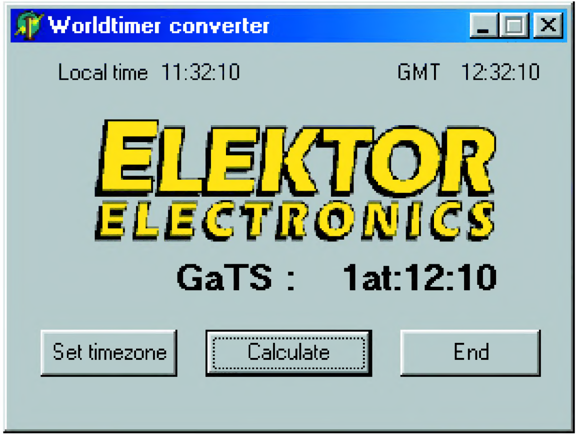
Global Time Standard

017

W. Alexander

This clock functions, for a change, without any hardware. This is because we are dealing with a Windows program, which indicates the time in an entirely new format: the so-called **at:** time. The distinctive feature of this format is that the time indicated is the same around the entire globe. This has advantages, particularly with (worldwide) communications between computers, and it is here were the new time standard is gaining popularity. In full, the official designation is called ‘Global **at:** Time Standard’, which is abbreviated to ‘GaTS’.

The **at:** time system divides the day into 72**at:**’s. This


Worldtimer converter

Local time 11:32:10

GMT 12:32:10

GaTS : 1at:12:10

makes it easy to recognise if it is early or late in the day. Earlier than 36at: is before noon and later than that is after noon. The day starts at 00**at:** at midnight and ends at 72**at:** again at midnight, the exact moment of the start of the next day. Of course, this is only valid for that point on the earth where the day always begins, namely the 180-degree meridian, in the vicinity of New Zealand. For other regions on earth the times mentioned correspond to different parts of the day. However, the time designation remains unaltered, so there is no longer the need to convert to local times.

A program written in Delphi makes it easy to convert between GaTS time, local time and GMT-time. The accompanying text is available in Dutch, French, German and English. This program may be downloaded free of charge from our web site (*www.elektor-electronics.co.uk*), the file number is 000154-11.

(000154-1)